

**The American system of law gives equal rights to all citizens. Everyone is innocent until proven guilty, and the jury system follows this tenet. Jurors, once chosen, must then work together to decide the fate of their peers. The jury system is the best method for determining this fate. The jury system, with the responsibility of the law given to the average citizen, is truly a reflection of democracy.**

**In the process of selecting a jury, American citizens are chosen randomly to serve on a jury of twelve. However, citizens can be excused from a jury because of health or criminal reasons. Of the eighty million that are called for jury duty, less than half make it onto a jury. In the process of the jury selection, both the prosecution and the defense interview possible jurors. Each side may remove a number of jurors, in the case that either believes that a possible juror may be lenient to one side or the other. Twelve jurors and two substitutes are chosen, and the trial can begin. During the trial, the jurors are called into the courtroom. The cases are presented by the defense and prosecution. Once the trial is over, the jury must be prepared to make a choice: Guilty or Not Guilty. Once in the jury room, the twelve discuss what points have been made and what decision they have come to, determining the outcome of the case.**

**America is the land of the free. We live in a democracy and follow the basic principles that our founding fathers presented in the constitution. We the People truly govern the United States of America. Such is this in the jury system. The jury system bestows on average people, with nothing to gain or lose, the power to**

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**determine the fate of their peers. This is the true beauty and power of the jury system. The belief that average citizens can set aside prejudice and work for a common goal: Justice. In no other way can it be done in the society in which we live. In no other way would it be just.**